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## Congress of the United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-4202

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Committee on Transportation and

SUBCOMMITTEES: Aviation Highways and Transit Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials

April 27, 2021

The Honorable Peter DeFazio Chairman, House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee 2165 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Sam Graves
Ranking Member, House Transportation
& Infrastructure Committe3
2164 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair DeFazio and Ranking Member Graves:

Thank you for your work on the upcoming surface transportation reauthorization legislation. I am writing to request funding for the Magnolia Avenue Corridor located at E Magnolia Avenue between N. Bertrand Street and N. Cherry Street in Knoxville, TN 37917. The project is sponsored by the City of Knoxville.

The funding is designated for phases 3 and 4 of the Magnolia Avenue Corridor project and includes streetscape improvements in the existing right-of-way; utility upgrades due to aging underground water and sewer systems; reconstructing the roadway for improved vehicle, pedestrian, and bike access; new lighting, landscaping, transit stops and amenities.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars and is anticipated to have the following benefits: Public and private investment will be leveraged to improve Magnolia Avenue, the key east-west arterial in east Knoxville. This area includes a designated Opportunity Zone with a 67% minority population with a median household income of \$25,303. The City of Knoxville has made key investments in adjacent affordable housing and historic neighborhoods. While the residential areas have persisted through economic cycles, this commercial route requires additional assistance to draw in new businesses.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

Tim Burchett

Member of Congress